

REMARKS

The Examiner is thanked for the Official Action dated July 10, 2006. The above amendment and remarks to follow are intended to be fully responsive thereto.

The Examiner is thanked for the indication of allowability of claims 4-10. The Examiner indicated that claims 4 would be allowed if rewritten to independent form. Claim 4 has so been amended and claims 4-10 are believed to be in condition for allowance. No new matter has been added. No new issues have been raised.

Claim 1 was objected to for minor informalities. Claim 1 has been amended in accordance with the Examiner comments and suggestions.

Claims 1 & 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. 3,525,545 to Leslie. Claims 1-3 & 11 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by EP 775,791 to Edward. Applicant respectfully disagrees. It is first noted that claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of claims 2-3. Thus the rejections of claims 1 & 11 regarding the '545 reference to Leslie are moot. Regarding the rejection to claim 3, Edward EP '791 fails to disclose a lock wherein a link rod comprises a point of articulation on the primary lever and a point of articulation on the secondary lever whereby the position of the articulation points of the link rod is selected so that, during the global unlocking phase, the secondary lever reaches its unlocking position before the primary lever reaches its unlocking position. The lost motion device of Edwards is directed to overriding a superlocking event enabling manual cancellation of superlocking. The lost motion device does nothing to delay movement of primary lever 10, but rather prevents drive dog 32 from displacement when drive lever 10 in superlocking off mode. During superlocking, dog 32 is displaced when primary lever is moved. In fact,

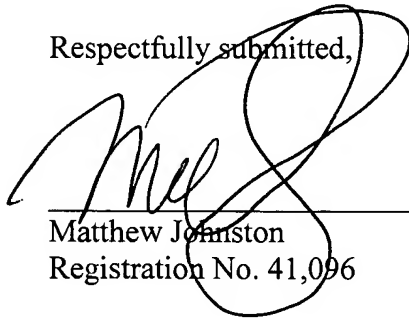
Edwards teaches away from any delay of lever 10 from reaching an unlocking position.

Therefore, any rejection of claim 3 (present claim 1) under 35 U.S.C. 102 or 103 is improper.

Claims 12-20 were added to further define the invention over the prior art.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, & 3-20 define the invention over the prior art and notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner believe further discussion regarding the above claim language would expedite prosecution, he is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,



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